

Appln No. 10/760,256
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Response to Office Action of June 23, 2005

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Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A method for printing wallpaper onto a web of media, comprising the steps of:
 - utilizing an on-demand printer comprising a cabinet, in which is located a media path which extends from a media loading area to a winding area, ~~there being a~~ printhead located in the media path, and a processor which accepts operator inputs from one or more input devices;
 - using one or more input devices which communicate with the processor to capture data from an operator regarding a specification for an operator's requirements including a selection of a pattern, said selection being communicated by input of a symbol of the selected pattern;
 - using the processor to operatively control the printer according to the data; and
 - printing a single roll of wallpaper, on demand, according to a selected pattern.
2. (Original) The method of claim 1, further comprising the step of:
 - representing the pattern as a symbol which can be captured as the data by an input device which communicates with the processor.
3. (Original) The method of claim 1, further comprising the step of:
 - storing to a storage device accessible to the processor and internal to the cabinet, a plurality of selectable files for describing patterns for printing onto the media.
4. (Original) The method of claim 1, further comprising the step of:
 - providing the printer with a video display for depicting the selected pattern.
5. (Original) The method of claim 4, further comprising the step of:
 - using the video display as a touch screen input device to capture operator preferences.
6. (Original) The method of claim 1, further comprising the step of:

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providing the printer with a scanner for capturing data that specifies a selected pattern.

7. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 4, further comprising the step of:
using the video display to display information that relates to the a configuration of the printer.
8. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein:
printing a roll of wallpaper according to a selected pattern and the configuration of the printer further comprises inserting a blank core into a winding area, in or on the printer and accessible to an operator;
winding the web onto the core after the web has been printed on; and
severing the wound core from the web.
9. (Original) The method of claim 8, wherein:
winding the web is performed by winding a length of a printed web onto the core;
the length being determined in advance;
the length being part of the configuration of the printer.
10. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 8, wherein:
the core is contained in a tote during the winding.
11. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 9, wherein:
winding the web is further performed by slitting the web, within the printer, to one or more specified widths prior to winding;
the one or more specified widths being a part of the printer configuration, having been communicated through one of the input devices.
12. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, further comprising the step of:
providing one or more collections of patterns;
each pattern in a collection having a said symbol which can be used as an operator input.
13. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein:

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the specification for an operator's requirements comprises a pattern and ~~the a~~
configuration of the printer;

the configuration being one or more parameters selected from the group comprising:
roll length, a roll slitting arrangement, one or more modifications to the pattern, or a
selection of media to be printed on.

14. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein utilizing an on-demand printer further
comprises:

loading a media cartridge into the printer, the cartridge containing a unprinted web of
media; and

using a motor in the printer to advance the unprinted web into the path;
automatically threading the media from the loading area, to the winding area.

15. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein utilizing an on-demand printer further
comprises:

loading a media tote into the winding area;
winding a printed roll of wallpaper onto a core inside the tote; and
severing the printed roll on the core from the web.

16. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein utilizing an on-demand printer further
comprises:

loading an empty core into the winding area;
winding a printed roll of wallpaper onto a core; and
severing the printed roll on the core from the web using an automated cutting
mechanism inside the printer, the cutting mechanism receiving a signal for commencing
cutting from the processor.

17. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 1, wherein printing a roll of wallpaper according
to a selected pattern further comprises:

using a full width, stationary color printhead to print onto the web while it is in
motion along the path.

18. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 17, further comprising the step of:
drying the web after it is printed on but before it is dispensed by the printer.

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19. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 18, wherein drying further comprises:
admitting the printed web into a compartment in an internal dryer and exposing the web to a stream of heated air.
20. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 17, further comprising the step of:
heating the web with a pre-heater platen located under the path before the web passes the printhead.
21. (Withdrawn) A method as claimed in claim 1 wherein the web of blank media is printed by the printhead at a rate exceeding 0.02 square meters per second (775 square feet per hour).
22. (Withdrawn) A method as claimed in claim 1 wherein the web of blank media is printed by the printhead at a rate exceeding 0.1 square meters per second (3875 square feet per hour).
23. (Withdrawn) A method as claimed in claim 1 wherein the web of blank media is printed by the printhead at a rate exceeding 0.2 square meters per second (7750 square feet per hour).
24. (Withdrawn) A method as claimed in claim 1 wherein the printhead has more than 7680 nozzles.
25. (Withdrawn) A method as claimed in claim 1 wherein the printhead has more than 20,000 nozzles.
26. (Withdrawn) A method as claimed in claim 1 wherein the printhead has more than 100,000 nozzles.
27. (Withdrawn) A method as claimed in claim 1 wherein the printhead has more than 250,000 nozzles.

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28. (Withdrawn) A method as claimed in claim 1 wherein the printhead prints ink drops with a volume of less than 5 picoliters.

29 (Withdrawn) A method as claimed in claim 1 wherein the printhead prints ink drops with a volume of less than 3 picoliters.

30. (Withdrawn) A method as claimed in claim 1 wherein the printhead prints ink drops with a volume of less than 1.5 picoliters.

31. (Currently Amended) A method as claimed in claim 1 wherein:
the printer is a self contained printer for producing rolls of wallpaper;~~the printer comprising:~~
~~a cabinet in which is located a media path which extends from a media cartridge loading area to a winding area;~~
~~the printhead is a full width digital color printhead located in the media path;~~
~~a processor which accepts the operator inputs which accepted by the processor -are~~
used to configure the printer for producing a particular roll; and
the winding area is adapted to removably retain a core and wind onto it, wallpaper produced by the printer.

32. (Original) A method as claimed in claim 1 wherein utilizing an on-demand printer further comprises:
loading a media cartridge into the printer, the media cartridge, comprising:
a case in which a roll of blank media may be deployed;
the case having two halves, hinged together, an area between the two halves, when closed, defining a media supply slot; and
the case having internally and adjacent to the slot, a pair of rollers, at least one of the rollers being a driven roller which is supported at each end, by the case, for rotation by an external motor.

33. (Withdrawn) A method as claimed in claim 1 further comprising the step of providing a consumer tote for carrying the roll of wallpaper, the tote comprising:
a disposable exterior in which is formed a main access flap and a pair of core access openings; and

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the tote having an interior in which is located a disposable core which is aligned with the access openings.

34. (Withdrawn) A method as claimed in claim 1 wherein the printer has a transverse cutter, the transverse cutter comprising:

- a chassis having end plates;
- the end plates being separated to allow a web of media to pass between them;
- the end plates supporting between them a cutting blade; and
- the blade supported at each end to perform a cutting motion which begins on one side of the web and finishes on an opposite side of the web.

35. (Withdrawn) A method as claimed in claim 1 wherein the printer has a slitting mechanism, the slitting mechanism comprising:

- a chassis having end plates;
- the end plates being separated by a transverse portion of the chassis to allow a web of media to pass between them;
- one or more rotating slitting shafts extending between the end plates, each shaft having one or more slitters arranged along its length, each slit having a cutting edge; and
- the slitting mechanism selectively engageable to either enter or not enter a path followed by the web according to an input provided by an operator of the printer.

36. (Withdrawn) A method as claimed in claim 1 wherein the printer has a dryer, the dryer comprising:

- a compartment with a top opening for receiving a media web fed from the printer;
- a source of heated air located above the top opening for blowing heated air into the opening to dry printing on the media web.

37. (Currently Amended) A method as claimed in claim 1 wherein the printer comprises:

- ~~a cabinet in which is located a media path which extends from a media loading area to a winding area;~~
- ~~a printhead located in the media path;~~
- ~~a processor which accepts the operator inputs from one or more input devices~~
~~which accepted by the processor~~ are used to configure the printer for producing a particular roll; and

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the winding area is adapted to removably retain a core and wind onto it, wallpaper produced by the printer wherein,

the length and design of the roll are determined by the operator inputs.

38. (Currently Amended) A method as claimed in claim 1 further comprising the steps of:

~~utilizing an on-demand printer comprising a cabinet in which is located a media path which extends from a media loading area to a printhead and from the printhead to a dispensing slot;~~

using the one or more printer-input devices ~~which to~~ communicate with ~~a the~~ processor so as to capture data regarding one or more customer's requirements;

the data comprising at least a customer selected pattern;

printing a roll of wallpaper, onto a web of blank media, on demand, according to the selected pattern; and

charging a customer for the roll.

39. (Cancelled).

40. (Original) A method as claimed in claim 1 wherein the printer comprises:

a frame in which is located a media path which extends from a media loading area to a winding area;

a printhead located across the media path;

one or more input devices for capturing operator instructions;

a processor which accepts operator inputs which are used to configure the printer for producing a particular roll; and

the winding area adapted to removably retain a core and wind onto it, wallpaper produced by the printer.

41. (Withdrawn) A method as claimed in claim 1 for printing wallpaper onto a web of media further comprising the steps of:

utilizing an on-demand printer comprising a cabinet in which is located a media path, there being a full width printhead located across the media path, there being a processor which accepts operator inputs from one or more input devices and which controls the printer;

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using one or more input devices which communicate with the processor to capture data from an operator regarding a specification;
running the printer according to the data;
printing a single roll of wallpaper, on demand, according to a selected pattern and configuration;
changing the pattern according to a new datum from an operator; and
then printing a new roll onto the same web.

42. (Withdrawn) A method as claimed in claim 1 for drying the moving web of media in the printer, the method further comprising the steps of:

loading the web in a path that traverses a compartment in a dryer within the printer, the compartment having an opening across the top;
allowing the moving web to descend into the compartment, as required; and
blowing heated air from above the opening.

43. (Withdrawn) A method as claimed in claim 1 for supplying the media web to the wallpaper printer, the method further comprising the steps of:

opening a reusable case;
placing into the case a core onto which has been located a supply roll of blank wallpaper media;
supporting the core for rotation within the case;
leading a free edge of the roll between a pair of rollers and past an edge of the open case; then
with the rollers located within the case and on either side of the web, closing the case and loading it into a printer.

44. (Withdrawn) A method as claimed in claim 1 wherein the printer has a printhead assembly which prints onto a moving web that follows a path, the assembly comprising:
a full width printhead located across the path;
the printhead comprising a color printhead which is at least as wide as the web;
the printhead being supplied with a number of different inks which are remote from the printhead and which supply the printhead through tubes.

45. (Withdrawn) A method as claimed in claim 1 wherein the printer further comprises:

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a housing in which is located a media path which extends from a blank media intake to a wallpaper exit slot;

a multi-color roll width removable printhead located in the housing and across the media path;

the printhead being supplied by separate ink reservoirs, the reservoirs connected to the printhead by an ink supply harness, there being a disconnect coupling between the reservoirs and the printhead;

one or more input devices for capturing operator instructions;

a processor which accepts operator inputs which are used to configure the printer for producing a particular roll.

46. (Withdrawn) A method as claimed in claim 1 further comprising the step of providing a consumer tote for carrying the roll of wallpaper, the tote comprising:

a disposable exterior in which is formed a main access flap and a pair of core access openings;

the tote having an interior in which is located a disposable core which is aligned with the access openings;

both openings exposing a moulded coupling, one coupling attached to each end of the core, at least one of the couplings being a driven coupling and adapted to engage a driving spindle that rotates the core.

47. (Withdrawn) A method as claimed in claim 1 wherein the printer has a removable printhead assembly which prints onto a moving web, comprising:

a full width stationary printhead located on a rail along which it slides for service and removal;

a number of replaceable ink reservoirs which supply the printhead with different inks;

the printhead comprising a color printhead which is at least as wide as the web; and

the printhead being supplied with the different inks through tubes which can be disconnected so the printhead may be removed.

48. (Currently Amended) A method as claimed in claim 1 wherein:

the printer is a self threading printer for producing rolls of wallpaper, comprising:

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a the media loading area is adapted to support a media cartridge in a position so that a media supply slot of the cartridge is closely adjacent to a pilot guide;

~~a cabinet housing a~~ the media path ~~which extends from the pilot guide to a printed media dispensing slot;~~

~~a~~ the printhead is located across the media path;

~~a processor which accepts the operator inputs which accepted by the processor are~~ used to configure the printer for producing a particular roll;

a motor is located within the cabinet for advancing a media web out of the media cartridge; and

one or more other motors ~~adapted~~ are provided to urge the media along the path and out of the slot.

49. (Cancelled).